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Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects

Letter dated 21 January 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

I have the honour to inform you that Switzerland, after having joined the United Nations on 10 September 2002, is herewith applying to become a full member of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations.

Switzerland considers United Nations peacekeeping operations as an important means of maintaining international peace and security. Switzerland has been a troop-contributing country to the United Nations since 1990 and an observer to the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations since 1996, when observers were admitted. Thus both conditions for full membership in the Special Committee according to General Assembly resolution 51/136 of 13 December 1996 have been met.

Switzerland believes that the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations is an important forum for discussing ways and means to make peace operations more effective. Our country is thus willing to contribute to these efforts and participate as a full member in the next session of the Special Committee scheduled from 27 February to 21 March 2003.

We would be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 78.

(*Signed*) Jenö C. A. **Staehelin**
Ambassador

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